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GENERAL

1. Dutch conditions for participation in UNCFI discussions--
US Representative Cochran in Batavia has received from the Netherlands delegation there a letter expressing the willingness of the Dutch to participate in discussions with leaders of the Indonesian Republic and UNCFI (the UN Commission for Indonesia), as proposed by the UN Security Council on 23 March. The Netherlands letter indicated, however, that Dutch acceptance is based on the understanding that such discussions will not prejudice the rights, claims, and positions of the two parties and consequently will not prejudice the responsibility of the Netherlands for "freedom and order in Indonesia." Representative Cochran expressed his disappointment over the reference to Dutch responsibilities in this reply and expressed his fear that such a reference might cause the Republicans to impose conditions on their acceptance.

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(CIA Comment: The proposed Netherlands-Indonesian discussions with UNCFI are to be held for the purpose of assisting the parties in removing the obstacles--primarily the question of restoring the Republicans to authority in Jogjakarta--to the holding of a conference at The Hague on the over-all Indonesian problem. CIA believes that the Republicans are already seriously considering refusing to attend the UNCFI meetings and shares Representative Cochran's view that the Dutch reply may lead to Republican conditions on acceptance.)

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